

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 04565 021003Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 04565

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MILI, CSCE, GW
SUBJECT: FRG PROPOSAL ON MILITARY MOVEMENTS

REF: NATO 04078 (DTG 252143Z MAY 77)

SUMMARY. FRG DEL HAS TABLED IN POLADS A PAPER WHICH SUGGESTS A POSITIVE LINE THAT ALLIES MIGHT TAKE IN RESPONSE TO AN EXPECTED INITIATIVE FROM THE NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES FOR THE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS. THE FRG PAPER, HOWEVER, OPPOSES AN ALLIED INITIATIVE ON MOVEMENTS. THE GERMAN LISTING OF PROS AND CONS OF NOTIFYING MOVEMENTS (WHICH WE REPORTED IN REF-TEL) FORMS SECOND PART OF THE PAPER TRANSMITTED BELOW. ACTION REQUEST: COMMENTS ON FRG PAPER (BELOW AND REFTEL), IF POSSIBLE, IN TIME FOR JUNE 7 POLADS MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN TEXT:

IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR DISCUSSIONS IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON THE CBMS PART OF THE BELGRADE MAIN MEETING
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 NATO 04565 021003Z

OUR POSITION ON THE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS IS THE FOLLOWING:

1) OUR AIM IS TO WORK OUT A COMMON ALLIANCE POSITION ON THE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS. IN DOING SO, WE BELIEVE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE SHOULD PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THE INITIATIVE OF NEUTRAL AND NON-

ALIGNED COUNTRIES WHICH IS TO BE EXPECTED ON THIS SUBJECT IN BELGRADE AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACT TO IT, TO TAKE AN INFLUENCE ON IT AND TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN A GENERAL DISCUSSION IN BELGRADE. HOWEVER, WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE ALLIANCE SHOULD NOT TAKE ANY INITIATIVE OF THEIR OWN IN REGARD TO THE PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

2) IN GIVING GREATER PRECISION AND A MORE CONCRETE MEANING TO THE PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS - ALREADY REFERRED TO IN THE FINAL ACT - WE REGARD THE FOLLOWING POINTS AS BEING OF IMPORTANCE:

-- THE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF VOLUNTARINESS AND SHOULD BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED;

-- THE FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTION OF GOVERNMENTS AND THE MILITARY READINESS OF THE ARMED FORCES MUST BE MAINTAINED FOR PERIODS OF CRISIS AND TENSION AND SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY CBM PROVISIONS;

-- THE NOTIFICATION SHOULD BE CONFINED TO MILITARY MOVEMENTS OF GROUND FORCES; MOVEMENTS BY NAVAL AND AIR FORCES ALONE SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO NOTIFICATION;

-- AS FAR AS THE ORDER OF MAGNITUDE IS CONCERNED, A THRESHOLD SHOULD BE FIXED WHICH IS NOT TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF NATO COMPARED WITH THE WP; THIS MEANS THAT IT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NATO 04565 021003Z

SHOULD BE BETWEEN 10,000 AND 25,000 TROOPS;

-- BORDERS AND BORDER AREAS SHOULD NOT BE A CRITERION FOR NOTIFICATION;

-- THE AREA OF APPLICATION SHOULD AT LEAST COMPRISE THAT LAID DOWN IN THE FINAL ACT FOR THE PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR MILITARY MANOEUVRES, I.E. THE WHOLE OF EUROPE WITH THE EXCEPTIONAL ARRANGEMENT ALREADY IN FORCE FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND TURKEY. END TEXT. BENNETT

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